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MONTANA AERONAUTICS COMMISSION



"HOSPITAL HELIPORT PROGRAM"

FOR THE IMPROVEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT
OF GREATER FACILITIES FOR
HELICOPTER AMBULANCE SERVICE

"Another Service of Your Montana Aeronautics Commission"

C. LYNCH, Director

J. MONGER, Assistant Director Airports Division

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November, 1966

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HOSPITAL HELIPORT PROGRAM

A prominent official of the Vertical Lift Aircraft Council of the Aerospace Industries Association of America in Washington, D. C., has stated:

"Our nation has developed the greatest hospital system the world has ever known, but the accident victim must wait upon an ambulance. Freeways in our major cities have helicopters overhead, but only to warn of impending slow-downs. Our military can, literally in minutes, respond to the call from a Vietnamese swamp but only the distant wail of an ambulance siren reaches the scene of an auto accident."

Lifesaving, timesaving air transportation has been forcefully identified with our aerospace age. Montana has been identified nationally as one of the nation's leading States in the per capita ownership of light aircraft and the use of light airplanes and helicopters in industry and business. In the years since 1954 the Montana Aeronautics Commission has actively encouraged and vigorously participated in the development of general aviation, utility-type airports. The Commission's total Airport Development Program, including its loan program to our larger communities for more sophisticated development in conjunction with the Federal Airport Aid Program, has been of vital importance in the growth and development of both air carrier and general aviation in the State of Montana.

It is therefore fitting and proper and with considerable pleasure that the Commission announces their "Hospital Heliport Program" to be offered from this date

forward for the development of emergency hospital heliports in conjunction with any or all Montana hospitals in the State of Montana for the furtherance of the development of helicopter ambulance service.

The administrators of all hospitals operating within the State of Montana have currently been notified that under the new program inaugurated by the Montana Aeronautics Commission the State Department will design, develop, construct, and mark permanent hospital heliports on suitable hospital land or rooftops provided by the hospital administration.

Hospital administrators, therefore, desirous of establishing emergency ambulance heliports in connection with their facility, may apply immediately to the Montana Aeronautics Commission, stating their needs and desires in this respect. The Airport Engineering Division of the Commission will then make the appropriate feasibility studies at the specific hospital locations and proceed with design, construction, and marking of the heliport.

The State share of this program obviously has to be limited to the hospital heliport itself and any building modifications for the purpose of roof access to a roof-mount heliport would have to, of course, be borne by the hospital administration. Hospital administrators are encouraged to take advantage of this program by the Montana Aeronautics Commission and are urged to keep the development of such a facility in mind in planning new construction for either buildings or grounds layout.

Probably the most critical item in the development of layout plans will be the available space for the helipad itself with clear and open approach channels as indicated in the attached engineering sketch.

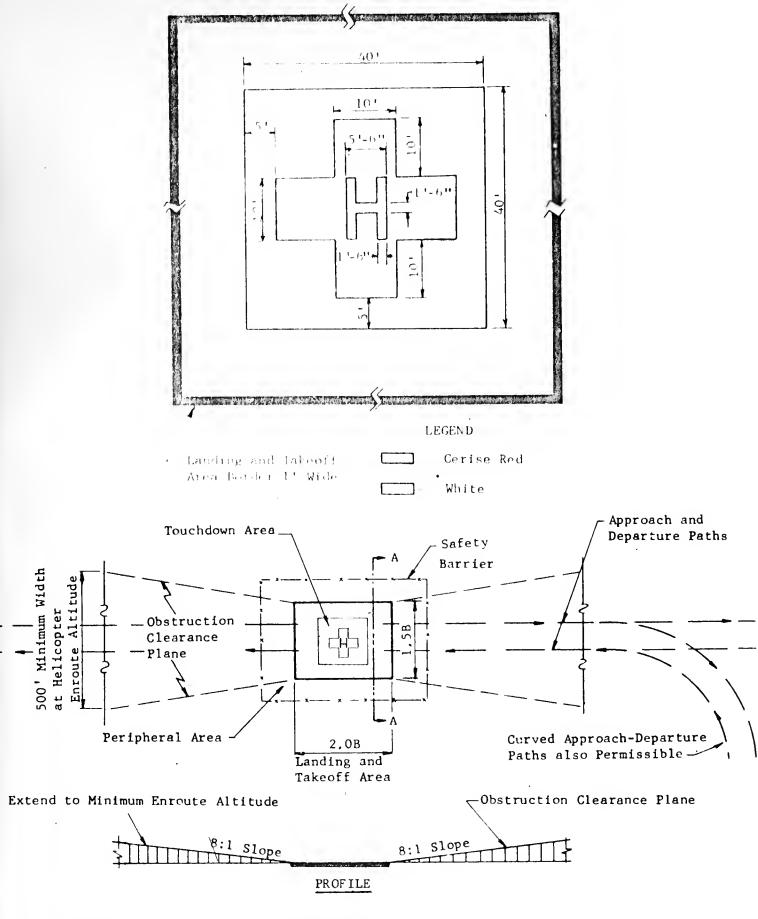
Each heliport will vary dependent upon the layout of the hospital and the airspace restrictions in the vicinity of the hospital.

Some hospitals are so constructed that the Montana Aeronautics Commission would merely have to paint the rooftop helipad marker. Other locations might prove the heliport should be on the hospital lawn. This, then, would mean the Commission's job would be greater in that they would have to inset the marker with stone or concrete into the suitable area.

In the event the best heliport location is an auto parking lot, then it may require fencing, more pavement, and, of course, air marking.

Please feel free to contact this office further for additional information for the development of hospital heliports for the further development of helicopter ambulance services.

C. Lynch, Director



NOTE: Dimension B Equals Overall Length of Helicopter

